

for here they find, by scratching in the cindery soil with their powerful beaks and claws, the seeds of grasses and other plants, which rapidly spring up during the short rainy season, and as rapidly disappear. They often eat small portions of the succulent leaves of the *Opuntia Galapageia*, probably for the sake of the moisture contained in them: in this dry climate the birds suffer much from the want of water, and these finches, as well as others, daily crowd round the small and scanty wells, which are found on some of the islands. I seldom, however, saw these birds in the upper and damp region, which supports a thriving vegetation; excepting on the cleared and cultivated fields near the houses in Charles Island, where, as I was informed by the colonists, they do much injury by digging up roots and seeds from a depth of even six inches.

1. GEOSPIZA MAGNIROSTRIS. Gould.

PLATE XXXVI.

G. fuliginosa, crisso cinerascens-albo; rostro nigro-brunnescente lavato; pedibus nigris.

Long. tot. 6 unc.; alæ, $3\frac{1}{2}$; caudæ, 2; tarsi, 1; rostri, $\frac{7}{8}$; alt. rost. 1.

Fœm. vel Mas jun.; corpore intensè fusco singulis plumis olivaceo cinctis; abdomine pallidiore; crisso cinerascens-albo; pedibus et rostro, ut in mare adulto.

Sooty black; with the vent cinereous white, the bill black, washed with brownish, and the feet black.

Female, or young male: Deep fuscous, with each feather margined with olive, the abdomen much paler, with the under tail-coverts cinereous white, the feet and bill like those of the male.

Habitat, Galapagos Archipelago. (Charles and Chatham Islands.)

I have strong reasons for believing this species is not found in James's Island. Mr. Gould considers the *G. magnirostris* as the type of the genus.

2. GEOSPIZA STRENUA. Gould.

PLATE XXXVII.

G. fuliginosa, crisso albo, rostro fusco et nigro tincto; pedibus nigris.

Long. tot. $5\frac{1}{2}$ unc.; alæ, 3; caudæ, $1\frac{3}{4}$; tarsi, $\frac{3}{4}$; rostri, $\frac{5}{8}$; alt. rost. $\frac{3}{8}$.

Fœm. Summo corpore fusco singulis plumis alarum caudæque plumis exceptis, pallidè cinerascens-olivaceo cinctis; guld et pectore fuscis; abdomine lateribus et crisso pallidè cinerascens-fuscis; rostro brunnescente.

Sooty black, with the under tail coverts white; the bill brown, tinged with black, and the feet black.

Female: Upper part of the body fuscous, with the margins of each feather, except those of the wings and tail, pale cinereous-olive; the throat and breast

fuscous: the abdomen, sides, and under tail-coverts pale cinereous-fuscous; the bill brownish.

Habitat, Galapagos Archipelago (James and Chatham Islands.)

GEOSPIZA FORTIS. Gould.

PLATE XXVIII.

G. intense fuliginosa, crisso albo; rostro rufescenti-brunneo, tincto nigro; pedibus nigris.

Fœm. (vel Mas jun.) Corpore suprâ pectore et gutture intensè fuscis, singulis plumis cinerascens-olivaceo marginatis; abdomine crissoque pallidè cinerascens-brunneis; rostro rufescenti-fusco ad apicem flavescens; pedibus ut in mare.

Long. tot. $4\frac{3}{4}$ unc.; alæ, 3; caudæ, $1\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, $\frac{11}{16}$; rostri, $\frac{7}{12}$.

Deep sooty black; with the under tail-coverts and the bill reddish brown tinged with black; the feet black.

Female (or young male): The body above, breast and throat, deep fuscous, with each feather margined with cinereous-olive: the abdomen, and under tail-coverts pale cinereous-brown; the bill reddish fuscous, with the apex yellowish, and the feet like those in the male.

Habitat, Galapagos Archipelago, (Charles and Chatham Islands.)

4. GEOSPIZA NEBULOSA. Gould.

G. summo capite et corpore nigrescenti-fuscis; singulis plumis cinerascens-olivaceo marginatis; corpore subtus pallidiore, abdomine imo crissoque cinerascens; rostro et pedibus intensè fuscis.

Long. tot. 5 unc.; alæ, $2\frac{3}{4}$; caudæ, $1\frac{3}{4}$; tarsi, $\frac{3}{4}$; rostri, $\frac{5}{8}$; alt. rost. $\frac{1}{2}$.

MALE.—Upper part of the head and body blackish fuscous, with each feather margined with cinereous olive; the body beneath paler, with the lowest part of the abdomen and under tail-coverts ashy; the bill and feet deep fuscous.

Habitat, Galapagos Archipelago, (Charles Island.)

5. GEOSPIZA FULIGINOSA. Gould.

G. intense fuliginosa, crisso albo, rostro fusco; pedibus nigrescenti-fuscis.

Long. tot. $4\frac{1}{2}$ unc.; alæ, $2\frac{1}{2}$; caudæ, $1\frac{5}{8}$; tarsi, $\frac{3}{4}$; rostri, $1\frac{1}{2}$; alt. rostri, $\frac{3}{8}$.

Fœm. Summo corpore, alis, caudæque intensè fuscis; singulis plumis cinerascens-ferrugineo marginatis; corpore infra cinereo, singulis plumis medium versus obscurioribus; rostro brunneo; pedibus nigrescenti-brunneis.

Deep sooty black, with the under tail coverts white; the bill fuscous, and the feet blackish fuscous.